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Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554 December 13, 1994

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Marin Colombia

The Honorable Sam Nunn U.S. Senate 303 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Nunn:

Thank you for contacting us on behalf of your constituent, Mr. Tobie H. Wilson, Jail Administrator, Lamar County Detention Center, regarding the Commission's Billed Party Preference (BPP) proceeding. On May 19, 1994, the Commission adopted a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in this proceeding. I have enclosed a copy of the Further Notice and press release accompanying it for your information.

The <u>Further Notice</u> sets forth a detailed cost/benefit analysis of BPP. This analysis indicates, based on the available data, that the benefits of BPP to consumers would exceed its costs. The <u>Further Notice</u> sought comment on this analysis and asked interested parties to supplement the record concerning the costs and benefits of BPP. The <u>Further Notice</u> also invited parties to recommend alternatives to BPP that could produce many of the same benefits at a lower cost.

The <u>Further Notice</u> also explicitly sought comment on whether correctional facility telephones should be exempt if BPP is adopted. Specifically, the <u>Further Notice</u> sought additional information on the effectiveness and costs of controlling fraud originating on inmate lines with or without BPP. The <u>Further Notice</u> also sought comment on a proposal to exempt prison telephones from BPP if the operator service provider adheres to rate ceilings for inmate calling services.

BPP would not preclude prison officials from blocking or limiting inmate calls to specific telephone numbers in order to prevent threatening and harassing calls. Moreover, BPP would not affect the ability of prison officials to limit inmates to collect calling or to program telephone equipment at the prison site to block certain numbers.

The Honorable Sam Nunn Page 2

Reply comments were due September 14, 1994. Presently, the Commission is evaluating the comments submitted and considering the implentation of BPP along with other options. I can assure you that the Commission will carefully examine all of the comments submitted in response to the <u>Further Notice</u>, including additional empirical data regarding the costs and benefits of implementing BPP and the impact of BPP on telephone service from correctional facilities.

Thank you for forwarding Mr. Wilson's correspondence to us and for your interest in this proceeding.

Sincerely yours,

John E. Logan Deputy Director

Office of Legislative and Inter-governmental Affairs

**Enclosures** 

SAM NUNN BEORGIA BHAIRMAN LY MES EXON NEBRASKA CARL LEVIN, MICHIGAN EDWARD M KENNEDY MASSACHUSETTS JEFF BINGAMAN, NEW MEXICO ALAN J DIXON ILLINOIS

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ARNOLD L. PUNARO, STAFF DIRECTOR PATRICK A TUCKER STAFF DIRECTOR FOR THE MINORITY Hnited States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6050

October 20, 1994

Ms. Harris Federal Communications Commission Office of Legislative Affairs 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Harris:

I recently received the enclosed inquiry from one of my constituents. Please review the matter thoroughly, in accordance with established policies and procedures, and provide me with a full report.

I look forward to hearing from you in the very near future.

Sincerely,

Lever

Sam Nunn

SN:pmm

Enclosure

Frank Monaghan

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July 28, 1994

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## issued to:

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U.S. Senator Sam Nunn

U.S.Senator Paul Coverdell

U.S. Representative Mac Collins

U.S. VP Albert Gore

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Honorable Senators and Representative,

Please let it be known that I am against billed party preference for OT INTERLATA CALLS.

- 1. We will lose blocking control of our Inmates phone calls.
- 2. We will lose revenue stream and the inmate family phone cost could go up.
- 3. The potential for fraud will creep back into the system.

Along with these major concerns, we also see a problem with who is going to pay for all this. We eagerly oppose the BPP and encourage the FCC to do the same.

Respectfully submitted.

Tobie H. Wilson

Jail Administrator

Lamar County Detention Center

121 Roberta Drive

Barnesville, Ga. 30204